

Framingham State College Sustainability Plan

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This Sustainability Plan has been reviewed and approved by Dr. Dale Hamel, Vice President of Administration and Finance of Framingham State College on April 15, 2005.

Signature

1. Agency Information, Impact Identification and Sustainability Team

1.1 Agency Description and Scope

Framingham State College, founded by Horace Mann in 1839, is an institution with a strong liberal arts focus and a rich history of academic innovation. Framingham State College is a college with a solid, traditional liberal arts foundation which encourages independent thought and creativity. Located just 20 miles west of Boston, the College offers all the cultural and social benefits of the city without the pressures and inconveniences of living there. The College is located on a beautiful, 73 acre, traditional New England campus in Framingham, the largest town in Massachusetts.

Mission statement: University learning in a college environment.

The College offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in at least 22 programs. The 2005 enrollment is approximately 6,100, of which approximately 1,500 are resident students. The number of faculty and staff is approximately 800.

The College operations include 6 resident halls (365,000 square feet) and 13 academic and administrative buildings (735,000 square feet), as well as 15 parking areas for faculty, staff and students. The College owns a parcel of land at 550 Union Avenue, used for resident student parking and inventory storage, and ballfield used by College sports teams, and used by neighbors.

Aside from resident halls and typical classroom and administrative buildings, the College has an in-house health services (closed summers), power plant for steam (heat and hot water) generation, full-service cafeteria, in-house grounds and building maintenance, science laboratories, a child development center, a shuttle bus service, a

mailroom/receiving area, and a McAuliffe Center (field trip for middle-school children to learn about space travel). The number of on-line students has been increasing through the Continuing Education program. The College has begun outreach to nursing homes.

The College is open, to some degree, 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. However, during the months of June, July and August, the power plant does not operate from 8 p.m. – 6 a.m.

1.2 Agency Impacts on the Environment and Human Health

The College operates resident halls, classrooms, laboratories, cafeteria, health services, athletic fields, all of which impact on the environment and human health.

Listed below are activities at the College that have potential impact on the environment and on human health:

Power Plant	Produces steam for heat and hot water Emits greenhouse gases, produces hazardous waste
Building Maintenance	HVAC, plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, masonry, custodial Produces hazardous waste, uses and produces universal waste, produces solid waste
Grounds Maintenance	Maintenance of grounds, irrigation management, planting, mowing, mulching, pest management Uses fertilizer, pesticides. Produces yard waste. Uses water
Walkways/ Parking Lots	Maintenance of paved surfaces Puts water into stormwater basins, sand and salt usage
Residence Halls	Housing 1,500 students for 9 months Requires building maintenance, produces solid and universal waste, use shuttle service
Laboratories Art Department	Science experiments and creation of art Emits air toxins when using hoods, produces hazardous waste, produces solid waste
Vehicles	Maintenance and operation of vehicle fleet including shuttle bus Emits greenhouse gases, produce hazardous waste
ITS	Maintenance and operation of computers and wireless network Produces universal waste, uses recyclable material, produces solid waste
Purchasing	Establishes RFPs and contracts for vendors
Athletic Fields/ Athletic Facility	Maintenance of athletic facility and athletic fields Requires grounds maintenance, produces medical waste, requires building maintenance, uses water

Cafeteria	Preparation and serve meals Uses utilities, produces hazardous waste, uses vehicle for catering, produces solid waste, produces recyclable material
Construction	Plan and implement new construction and renovations Produce construction debris, produce solid waste, emit greenhouse gases, uses water

1.3 Agency Operational Costs

	FY04
Electricity	\$996,712.36
Water & Sewer	289,329.10
#6 oil	574,400.08
#2 heating oil	4,700.90
#2 Diesel	839.38
Natural Gas	9,226.28
Hazardous waste	7,195.00
Universal waste	3,312.52
Solid waste	69,205.12
Medical Waste	1,065.20
Recycling	2,280.00

1.4 Agency Sustainability Team Members

Maureen Bagge Fowler, Agency Coordinator
Michael Hinkley, Director, Facilities
Dan Giard, Operations Supervisor
Bob Tatro, Power Plant Engineer
Warren Fairbanks, College Engineer

Meetings will be as necessary, at least annually to review status. As necessary, members of ITS, Purchasing, Health Services and Student Services may be called in to assist the team members.

2. Long-Term Goals/Vision

2.1 Long-Term Goals

Framingham State College has established policies to try to reduce its environmental impacts on its surroundings. To this end, recycling initiatives have been undertaken, investigation continues in ways to reduce fossil fuel usage, and ways to restrict water usage have been researched. The College plans on continuing its emphasis on using less natural resources to continue its treasured place in Middlesex Country.

The College, as part of this Sustainability has increased recycling in the Residence Halls. The College is hoping to increase awareness of recycling throughout the college community.

3. Short-term Actions and Priorities

3.1 Priority and Areas Goals

Decrease solid waste
 Increase recycling
 Reduce electrical usage
 Reduce amount of hazardous waste generated, by purchasing less

3.2 Agency Action Steps

Sustainable Goal	Benefits	Tasks	Responsible Staff	Timeline
Decrease solid waste disposal	Cost savings, increase recycling,	Establish partnership with Institutional Recycling Network for disposal of furniture, etc. Use textbook recycling companies to move textbooks to lesser developed countries	Maureen Bagge Fowler	Use IRN in the summer for resident hall cleanout.
Increase recycling	Reduce amount of solid waste, save money	Advertise more the recycling initiative. Work with student groups to promote in residence halls; Further advertise successes; Establish contracts with IT vendors to recycle more computer components	Maureen Bagge Fowler with Custodial coverage and Student Services	Signage up prior to school start in September. Publish amounts each semester
Reduce electrical usage	Save money, use natural resources	Install light sensors	Facilities Department	Perform light checks, install more light sensors where usage dictates
Reduce hazardous waste	Save money, reduce amount of waste	Do not purchase oil-based paint. Purchase only what products are needed. Work with Purchasing.		Clean out of old products in March 2005, continue through September 2005.

4. Management Systems and Institutionalization

4.1 Integrating Environmental Impacts into Key Decision Points

Purchasing: Work with Purchasing to establish environmental RFP's, reduce packing materials on current vendors

Construction: Work closely with DCAM on having construction and renovation projects include environmental concerns, energy conservation and green products, as available.

Vendors: Work closely with all vendors, explaining the need for more green products, more recyclable materials, and ways to reduce environmental impacts.

4.2 Education and Training of Staff

A new section will be added to the Facilities webpage at www.framingham.edu to discuss sustainability areas. Any new suggestions derived from Sustainability Team may be posted, so the College community can review and make comments.

The students will be educated through literature on move-in days and through the resident life staff. Staff will be kept abreast of changes through emails and the weekly newsletter.

4.3 Management Systems

Framingham State does not currently have a formalized Environmental Management System (EMS), but many environmental plans are in place, including recycling initiatives, bloodborne pathogens, laboratory safety, universal waste handling, spill prevention plan, and Right-to-Know. Before the end of 2005, an EMS will be rolled out at the College

5. Tracking Progress and Program/Plan Review

5.1 Agency Tracking and Reporting Form

The annual tracking form will be downloaded and completed by the Sustainability Contact at the College. The information will be derived from other team members and associated outside vendors.

5.2 Continuous Improvement

The Sustainability Program at Framingham State College will continue to evolve as new students arrive on campus with a new perspectives on how best to handle issues related to them, such as recycling.

Updates on utility usage occurs monthly, and progress can be tracked of savings.

More encouragement can be given to staff who participate in ways to promote sustainability.

A semi-annual review will be undertaken by the Coordinator, and a more thorough annual review will be undertaken by the Team to review progress on all issues, and encourage greater sustainability.

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